Marked-up Version of Amended Claims
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.121(b)-(c)

12. (Reiterated) An isolated AIB1 polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 8, wherein the polypeptide acts as a co-activator of an estrogen receptor.

Please cancel claim 13.

14. (Amended) A method of identifying a candidate compound which [inhibits] may inhibit estrogen receptor (ER)-dependent transcription comprising

contacting the compound with the AIB1 polypeptide of claim 12 and

determining whether the compound binds to the polypeptide,

wherein binding of the compound to the polypeptide indicates that the compound [inhibits] may inhibit ER-dependent transcription.

15. (Reiterated) The method of claim 14, wherein the AIB1 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 2.

16. (Reiterated) The method of claim 14, wherein the AIB1 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3.

18. (Twice Amended) A method of identifying a candidate compound which [inhibits] may inhibit estrogen receptor-dependent transcription comprising:

contacting the AIB1 polypeptide of claim 12 and an estrogen receptor polypeptide with the compound and

determining the ability of the compound to interfere with the binding of the estrogen receptor polypeptide with the AIB1 polypeptide,

wherein interference of the binding of the estrogen receptor polypeptide and the AIB1 polypeptide indicates the compound [inhibits] may inhibit estrogen receptor dependent transcription.

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19. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the AIB polypeptide further comprises SEQ ID NO: 2 [or a conservative variant thereof].

20. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the AIB polypeptide further comprises SEQ ID NO: 3 [or a conservative variant thereof].

55. (Reiterated) An isolated DNA comprising a sequence encoding a AIB1 polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 8, wherein the polypeptide acts as co-activator of an estrogen receptor.

56. (Reiterated) The isolated DNA of claim 55, wherein the AIB1 polypeptide is a human AIB1 polypeptide.

57. (Reiterated) The isolated DNA of claim 55, wherein the polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.

58. (Reiterated) The isolated DNA of claim 55, wherein the polypeptide further comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

59. (Reiterated) The isolated DNA of claim 55, wherein the AIB1 polypeptide further comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.

Please cancel claims 61-62.

63. (Thrice Amended) [The <u>isolated</u> DNA of claim 55 comprising] <u>An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence set forth as</u> (a) [the sequence of] SEQ ID NO: 1, (b) a degenerate variant thereof, or (c) the complement thereof.

64. (Reiterated) The isolated DNA of claim 55, operably linked to a promoter.

65. (Reiterated) An isolated host cell comprising the DNA of claim 55.

Please cancel claims 66-68.

69. (Reiterated) An isolated polynucleotide having at least 90% homology to SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide that acts as a co-activator of an estrogen receptor.

70. (Reiterated) The isolated polypeptide of claim 12, wherein the polypeptide further comprises SEQ ID NO: 2.

71. (Reiterated) The isolated polypeptide of claim 12, wherein the polypeptide further comprises SEQ ID NO: 3.

72. (Reiterated) The isolated polypeptide of claim 70, wherein the polypeptide further comprises SEQ ID NO: 3.

73. (Reiterated) The isolated polypeptide of claim 12, wherein the polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 4.

74. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein the polypeptide fragment comprises SEQ ID NO: 8, and wherein the polypeptide fragment binds the estrogen receptor.

Please cancel claim 75.

76. (Reiterated) An isolated nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of claim 74.

Please cancel claim 77.

78. (Reiterated) An isolated nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of claim 73.

79. (Amended) The isolated nucleic acid encoding the [of clam 62] polypeptide of claim 63, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 1.

Please cancel claim 80.

81. (Reiterated) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 1, a degenerate variant thereof, or the complement thereof.

Please cancel claim 82.

83. (Reiterated) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 69, wherein the polynucleotide has at least 95% homology to SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide that acts as a co-activator of an estrogen receptor.

84. (Reiterated) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 69, wherein the polynucleotide has at least 98% homology to SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide that acts as a co-activator of an estrogen receptor.

85. (Reiterated) An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 83.

86. (Reiterated) An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 84.

87. (Amended) [The isolated DNA of clam 61, which] An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 8, wherein the polypeptide acts as co-activator of an estrogen receptor, wherein the polynucleotide hybridizes under high stringency conditions to a nucleic acid having a sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 1, or the complement thereof, and wherein high stringency conditions comprise

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hybridization at about 42 °C and about 50% formamide, a first wash at 65 °C, about 2X SSC and 1% SDS; followed by a second wash at about 65 °C and about 0.1 X SSC.